

**Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application
PCT/EP99/06524 filed September 4, 1999**

The present invention relates generally to the use of cyclic carbonates as moisturizers in cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical preparations. --

At page 2, line 19 thereof, please add the following new section heading:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--

At page 20, between lines 1 and 2, please add the following new paragraph:

--What is claimed is:--

On a separate, new page 21, following page 20, please add the following new section heading and paragraph containing an Abstract of the Disclosure:

--ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods of moisturizing substrates, including skin and hair, using compositions containing cyclic carbonates according to the general formula (I) are disclosed. Additionally, methods of enhancing the moisturizing properties of cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical compositions by combining such compositions with cyclic carbonates according to the general formula (I) are also disclosed.--

In the Claims:

Please add new claims 7-25, as follow:

--7. (New) A method of moisturizing a substrate, said method comprising:

- (a) providing a substrate to be moisturized;
- (b) providing a cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition comprising a cyclic carbonate of the general formula (I):